International Workshop: ' Connecting Delta Cities '

About coastal cities, climate change and adaptation; A global exchange of experiences

Venue: 401 Park Ave, New York, NY 10016, United States, +1 212-683-9555 New York City, June 9-10th 2009

The potential impacts of climate change on large coastal cities have beemAaddressedE &nCCtheTAscientific literature over the past 10-15 years. Climate Change and sea level rise may exacerbate flood risks from surges as well as peak discharges from rivers. As consequence, the vulnerability infrastructure, people, nature and other economic sectors is expected to increase. Socio-economic trends may further amplify possible consequences from future floods as more people are moving towards urban coastal areas and capital is continuously invested in ports, industrial centers and financial businesses in flood-prone areas. By 2040, more than 50% of the global population is expected to live in urban coastal areas.

Adaptation to climate change and flood risks entails a broad portfolio of options. Adaptation strategies can be targeted to managing the probability of a flood or to minimizing its consequences. Furthermore. policies address. adaptation may evacuation schemes, improved communication civilians tο



Adaptation: Orban development 211t above sea

C-40: EXCHANGE OF KNOWLEGDE

The C-40 (http://www.c40cities.org/), initiative by President Bill Clinton, recognizes the central role cities have to play in tackling climate change. C-40 strongly supports the exchange information and knowledge across coastal cities. The cities include New York, Jakarta, London, Tokyo, Sao Paolo and Rotterdam. Although C-40 initially focused mitigating greenhouse gases, adaptation is now also increasingly regarded as a key issue.



How high can we construct flood walls and dikes?

GOAL OF THE WORKSHOP

The workshop will provide a stage for the state of the art science and policies in the area of adaptation to climate change in several key global cities. Innovations and bottlenecks in adaptation policies will be addressed as well as areas with potential for extended knowledge exchange.

The outcome of the meeting are two books. One book for a broad audience (Sep. 2009) and one in depth scientific book (Mar 2010). Both books describe the key issues related to successful implementation of adaptation strategies. To illustrate the development and implementation of adaptation measures, the books provide a comparative assessment between the cities of Rotterdam, Jakarta and New York showing climate change effects, solutions and their 'pros and cons'

Program Workshop NYC, June 9-10 (version April 20th)

Day 1 June 9th 'Adaptation research and policy in coastal cities'

Introduction	praction research and poncy in coustai cities		
9.00-9.10 AM	Welcome	Malcolm Bowman & William Solecki	
9.10-9.30AM	Each city representative (Jakarta; NYC, R'dam) makes a statement of 5 min on the main adaptation challenge for each city	Arnoud Molenaar (City of R'dam) Adam Freed (City of NY) Raymond Kemur (City of Jakarta)	
9.30 –9.45AM	Movie: Connecting Delta Cities		
Session 1(Morning): S	Scenarios & effects		
9.45 – 10.15	Climate change & Sea level rise	Hans Peter Plag (Univ. Nevada)	
10.15- 10.45	Climate effects and flood risks in New York	Radley Horton (Columbia/GISS-NASA)	
	Coffee		
11.00-11.30	Climate adaptation in the Netherlands	Jeroen Aerts (VU Univ Amsterdam)	
11.30 – 12.00	Climate effects Jakarta	Muh Aris Marfai (Univ Yogjakarta)	
12.00 –12.30	Moderated discussion (Dennis Kamber)		
	Lunch 12.30-13.30		

Session 2 (Afternoon): Adaptation policies for coastal cities				
13.30-14.15	Thames Estuary 2100	Alex Nickson, City of London, UK		
Working groups 14.30 – 16.30	Each group discussion starts with two presentations of 5-10 minutes, followed by a comment.			
Group 1: Is current scientific information on climate change tailored to the requirements of adaptation policy?	 Brian Colle, Stony Brook Radley Horton, NASA GISS → comment: Adam Freed, NY Mayors office 	Chair: Rae Zimmerman		
Group 2: What options for adaptation are available and what are priorities?	 Adaptation in NY, David Major, Columbia John Jacobs, Rotterdam 2030 → comment: Raymond Kemur, DG Spatial Planning, Jakarta, Indonesia. 	Chair: Klaus Jacob		
 Group 3: Climate risk priorities: perceptions & communication of adaptation policies Sarah Newkirk: TNC Esa Tobing: Jakarta Governors office → comment: Arnoud Molenaar, Rotterdam, The Netherlands 		Chair: Elke Weber, Columbia.		
Moderated discussion 16.30-18.00 Each group reports back in plenary with the most important conclusions from the sessions (10 min each)		Dennis Kamber		

Day 2 June 10th: 'Public & Private adaptation measures'

The second day will focus on international examples of concrete adaptation measures developed by governments and private companies. Within this context, additional topics are:

- Priorities: what adaptation measures should be implemented first?
- And, what should be done now in order to stay flexible and implement additional adaptation options in the future?

Session 1 (Morning) Plenary			
9.00-9.15 AM	Welcome	Malcolm Bowman & William Solecki	
9.15-9.45	Risk – Insurance	Robert Muir Wood, (RMS)	
9.45 -10.15	Climate change, adaptation and infrastructure	Ernest Tollerson, (MTA)	
10.15-10.45	Climate adaptation and Urban Planning	L. Nieuwenhuis / D. Sijmons (H+N+S)	
10.45-11.15	Climate adaptation and storm surges: a systems approach to protect large cities	Piet Dircke (Arcadis/Univ of Rotterdam)	
11:15-11:45	Storm surge scenarios and the potential for barriers in New York	Malcolm Bowman, Douglas Hill (Stony Brook Univ NY)	
11.45 –12.30	Moderated discussion (Piet Dirck	e)	
	Lunch 12.30-13.30		
Session 2: (Afternoon) 13.30-15.00 Working groups	Discussion on expected impacts/effects and adaptation options (in time – what measures should be implemented when?)		
Group 1 (Infrastructure)	Gary Heath, DEP Rinske van der Meer, Port Authority Rotterdam, →Comment: Ernest Tollerson / Chris Zeppie	Chair: Reggie Blake, CUNY	
Group 2 (Flood Risk & Insurance)	Laurens Bouwer, VU Univ. Amsterdam Elles Le Blanc (TBD) →Commentator: Gary Yohe, Wesleyan	Chair: Craig Faris.	
Group 3 (Architecture)	roup 3 (Architecture) Kristina Hill, Uni. Virginia Peter Caradonna → comment: Arnoud Molenaar, Rotterdam		
Moderated discussion 15.00-16.00	Each group reports back in plenary with the most important conclusions from the sessions (10 min each)	Piet Dircke	
16.00	-16.30: Feeding workshop results into a book: Jer	oen Aerts	
Clo	sing workshop 16.30 (allow people to go to airport	on time)	

Location

Stony Brook University Manhattan Facility

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Contact & Background information

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